

ABSTRACT

An apparatus for delivering a clip includes an introducer sheath including an outer surface extending between its proximal and distal ends, and a hub on the proximal end that includes spacer elements spaced away from the outer surface. An annular clip includes a plurality of tines
5 extending from its distal end and its proximal end is held away from the outer surface of the sheath by the spacer elements. A handle assembly is attached to the hub that includes an actuator member slidable between the spacer elements and the outer surface of the sheath. The actuator member includes radial protrusions for coupling with the clip, whereby distal movement of the actuator member advances the clip towards the distal end of the sheath. Optionally, a skin
10 overlies the outer surface of the sheath and the clip that is separable from the outer surface as the clip is advanced.